



Audubon Butterfly Garden
and Insectarium
A Facility of Audubon Nature Institute

Find out about the fascinating animals that fly after dark

Wild Nights – Insect Adventure is Buzzing Back to Audubon Wilderness Park

(New Orleans, La.) - It's that time of year...caterpillars are out, termites are swarming, and Wild Nights – Insect Adventure is back for the season! The team at Audubon Butterfly Garden and Insectarium is providing an opportunity for up-close observation of the truly amazing diversity of arthropods at Audubon Wilderness Park located within Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center on the West Bank of New Orleans.

"We get to share our wealth of knowledge about local insects and take small groups into the wilderness to get a rare chance to marvel at magnificent moths and get bedazzled by beautiful beetles," said Zack Lemann, Audubon Butterfly Garden and Insectarium's Animal and Visitor Programs Manager. "We hope this up-close opportunity to learn about bugs that buzz after dark sparks a curiosity and appreciation of the diversity of wildlife right in our backyards!"

During the experience, Audubon entomology staff will set up special lights after sunset and observe insects attracted to the area. Guests will learn about insect natural history and how the entomology staff collects many of the animals for exhibits at Audubon Butterfly Garden and Insectarium.

When not observing what flies into the lights, staff and guests will walk a wooded trail and experience the sounds of the night as well as the insects, spiders, and other wildlife in a rich and enchanting patch of bottomland hardwood forest.

Wild Nights – Insect Adventure is offered the following dates:

Friday, May 19

Friday, June 16

Friday, July 14

The evening program runs from 6 p.m. through 10 p.m. and includes a sandwich dinner. Participants also will receive a "field kit" containing a collection of vials, a headlamp, a magnifying glass, moth-collecting envelopes, and a souvenir water bottle.

The experience is available for ages 8 and older and can accommodate a maximum of 15 guests per night. Each adult can accompany up to 3 children.

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Tickets for “Wild Nights – Insect Adventure” are \$115 per person for Audubon members and \$125 per person for non-members. Tickets can be purchased by visiting <http://audubonnatureinstitute.org/aquarium/wild-encounters/780-wild-nights-insect-adventure>

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- Whitney Zoo-To-Do Celebrates 40 Years of Success
- USA Today names Audubon Zoo and Audubon Aquarium among the 10 best in the U.S.

Audubon Nature Institute

Audubon Nature Institute operates a family of museums, parks and research facilities dedicated to celebrating the wonders of nature. Through innovative live animal exhibits, education programs, and scientific discovery, Audubon makes a meaningful contribution to preserving wildlife for the future. Audubon Nature Institute flagships include Audubon Park, Audubon Zoo, Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, Entergy Giant Screen Theater, Audubon Butterfly Garden and Insectarium, Audubon Louisiana Nature Center, Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center, Woldenberg Riverfront Park and Audubon Wilderness Park. Ron Forman is President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute.